



THE ZION ZEALANT

Zion Lutheran Church, 101 E. North St, Columbia City, IN
 Phone: (260) 244-5513 Tonya Stanford, Secretary
 E-Mail: zionccdq@gmail.com
 Web Page: <http://www.zionlutherancc.com/index.html>
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/ZionColumbiaCity



Pastor's Corner

Cell: 260-415-9078 (Text or call)
 Email: revrittner@reagan.com

Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

The first two Sundays of August this year we look into the Gospel of St. John, especially in Chapter 6. Jesus is speaking to the crowds and His disciples that He is The Bread of Life. With this “Bread” language, Jesus is speaking to the Gentiles and the Jews regarding Him being the Son of God and the significance of His coming.

This is about the time that our Lord performed the miracle of feeding the 5000. All who had followed Him rather enjoyed being fed such a great, free meal. And as written in John's Gospel – the people eagerly ran after wherever the Christ and His disciples could be found. The morning of the day after the wonderful miracle had been done, it says in verse 24 that “... **when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.**”

Jesus knew why they had chased after Him; after being discovered on the other side of the Sea of Galilee, Jesus told them **“Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.”**

Our Lord was of course speaking about Him being the Divine Meal which fulfills man with what is truly necessary. This “bread” is He Who will “feed” God's children now and forever. There's nothing on earth that can “feed” man for his salvation and life but God's own Son. Again, as our Lord emphasizes, **“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst... I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”**

As Jesus comes so that you may be fed, He invites you to come to His Table and partake of His body and blood. Here at Zion, we regularly rejoice in the Divine Service so that you may often be reassured your Savior has rescued you from sin, death, and the devil; and YOU are a treasured recipient of an inheritance in Heaven.

Come... come to church regularly to feast on this Holy Meal which satisfies. Come, hear of His divine forgiveness of all your sins; and yes, hear again and again how Jesus Christ died and rose again, all so you could live... and live forever.

See you in church, soon!

Pastor Phil Rittner



MEETING MINUTES

Voters' Assembly Meeting July 25, 2021

Meeting called to order by President Ralph Brooke with twelve (12) members, one (1) ex-officio member and one (1) guest present.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: Steve Smith made a motion to accept the June Board of Directors Meeting minutes printed in the July Zealant with no corrections. Judy Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Receiving Treasurer: reported by Chuck Cooper

	June 2021	YTD
Unrestricted Offering Receipts	\$ 4,580.00	\$ 39,256.95
Restricted Offering/ Miscellaneous Offering Receipts	\$ 1,212.51	\$ 9,050.86
On-Line Giving Receipts	\$ 3,085.00	\$ 15,431.00
Dividends	\$ 253.54	\$ 1,634.10
Interest	\$ 2.76	\$ 13.18
Total Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 7,665.00	\$ 54,687.95
Total Restricted Receipts	\$ 1,212.51	\$ 9,050.86
Total Receipts	\$ 9,133.81	\$ 65,386.09

Katie Rittner made a motion to accept the report as presented. Kim Yann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Disbursing Treasurer: reported by Jill Coons

Check/Savings as of **June 30, 2021**

General Checking/Savings	\$ 65,170.80
Youth	\$ 12,710.65
Restricted Funds	\$ 17,993.91
Lehmburg Legacy/ Kyler Endowment	\$ 200,016.39

Statement of Activity

	June 2021	YTD
General Budget	\$ (1,094.83)	\$ 14,480.01
Non-Budgeted/ Reimbursed	\$ 16,333.75	\$ 23,613.98
Youth	\$ 3,183.59	\$ 3,089.39
Net Revenue	\$ 18,422.51	\$ 41,183.38

Chuck Cooper made a motion to accept the report as presented. Barb Lahrman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Elders:

Elder Meeting for June 20 and July 18, 2021

Meeting was opened with prayer.

The Elders recommend that we accept the transfer of Rev. David and Joyce Easterday from Lake George, Fremont to Zion.

Steve Smith made a motion to accept the transfer of Rev. David and Joyce Easterday. Peggy Brooke seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Elders recommend we grant a transfer for John Myers from Zion to St. John's Lutheran Church, Columbia City.

Steve Smith made a motion to accept the transfer of John Myers. Katie Rittner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

We worked on our training manual (*The Caring Elder*).

Since we won't have a vicar this coming year and more work will fall back on Pastor, we recommend that we raise the Pastor's salary from \$125.00 to \$250.00 per week.

Many of our members may not know that Katie has been doing much of Tonya's work while she has been recuperating from COVID-19. We therefore recommend that she be given a \$200.00 gift card for each month until Tonya returns.

Steve Smith made a motion to give the gift card to Katie. Chuck Cooper seconded. Discussion was held and it was recommended to do a flat rate to cover ½ of May, June, July and August for \$750. Steve remade the motion to give a \$750 gift card to Katie. Chuck Cooper seconded the new motion. Motion passed.

Seminarian Joshua Dub has agreed to assist Pastor when needed throughout this period without a vicar. Joshua is married to our returning deaconess fieldworker, Michaela Dub.

Seminarian Thompson Marin will preach on August 22nd. Seminarian Scott Woodhouse will preach on August 29th. Both are sons of the congregation.

A new video doorbell has been installed.

Average attendance for June was:

Sundays 40

Meeting closed with the Benediction.

Respectively submitted,
Stephen Smith (Sec.)

Trustees:

The sign repair is moving forward and all paperwork has been submitted waiting to hear when it will be scheduled. We are in the que to be done.

Board of Education: No meeting

Board of Christian Outreach: No meeting

Board of Stewardship: No report

Board of Youth:

Old Settlers made just under \$3,000.

Planning is beginning and information is starting to come in for National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas next summer.

Pastor:

Pastor was asked to look into and provide insight for two (2) mission options. Pastor recommends \$25, \$50, or \$100 per month to one of the following:

1. LCMS Missionary – as an LCMS Missionary, they have to collect ONE (1) year of the salary before they ever leave the US to report to their mission field country.
2. Student adoption at CTSFW (this is different from the support we give to our two member seminary students) for the 2021-2022 academic year (September – May) through the Student Adoption Program.

Discussion was held and Kim Yann asked that the discussion be tabled until we have met at least half of the annual budget district pledge made before considering taking on a mission project by the congregation.

Unfinished/Old Business:

The computer in the church office was replaced. It was taken to A+ Computer and was beyond being repaired.

Vice President Betty Wilkinson is working with Dan Knuth to get the replacement industrial stove that will bring us up to code and in compliance with the City and State Statutes.

Since it was never decided upon the adoption of the new Constitution and By-laws how many times per year the Voters' Assembly would meet and it is at the discretion of the congregation, Kim Yann made a motion to hold **TWO** (2) Voters' Assembly Meetings per year, one in **April** and one in **October**. Pat Decker seconded the motion. The motion passed. Emergency meetings will be called as necessary with the proper two (2) week notice.

New Business:

Jill Coons made a motion to give our secretary, Tonya Stafford, a gift of \$750 to help during the time that she has been recovering from COVID and her hospital stay. Kim Yann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

With no further business, Peggy Brooke made a motion to adjourn. Judy Gilbert seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Pastor Rittner closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary

Final Memoir of a Vicar



“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

A wise man once told me that “*God does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called,*” and it has stuck with me ever since. This statement from Pastor Phil came at the perfect time when I started to question my call as a future pastor at the beginning

of Vicarage due to fear and anxiety. *“How could God have chosen to call someone like me, do I have what it takes?”*

If you haven't noticed by now, I am covered in tattoos and I have a beard that would make Paul Bunyan envious. I know that I am a vastly different seminarian student in appearance than most, but you guys have looked past all of that and have opened up your loving arms to my family and me. For that we are extremely grateful.

By the time you are reading this, I will have gone on from here and I am preparing myself to enter back into classes at the seminary this upcoming September. Though we will not see each other every week, know that my family and I have not forgotten you and the Love of Christ you have bestowed to us.

It's hard to look back and realize that a whole year has come and gone. The memories that I have shared with all of you I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I am blessed to have had this opportunity and experience with you and I wouldn't trade it for the world.

Next April, Lord willing, I will receive my call documents for my summer 2022 ordination and that creates a mix of feelings. Feelings of excitement that it is actually happening and getting closer, feelings of awe that God would call me, and feelings of being overwhelmed in knowing that I still have more to learn. Through my time here my strengths have shown through, and my weakness have come to my attention. But I also have feelings of peace in knowing that I have wonderful professors who can guide me and help me excel in my final year of schooling. I will always be learning and honestly, making mistakes because I am human. But the grace and promises of God surpass all my human errors. I have learned so much from you folks at how to better serve a congregation, and for that I thank you. Thank you for your grace and mercy, thank you for the good memories. I praise God for this year with you because he knew exactly what I needed, and God has chosen to use you folks here for my good, and my growth. Know that you folks here at Zion Lutheran Church will NOT be forgotten, you have become a family to my wife and I, grandparents to my kids, and we could not have asked for more. You were a huge steppingstone in my preparation for ministry.

God knew what he was doing when he brought my family and me here. God knew what I needed for growth. God knows what my future will look like, and I am confident that every moment and memory will prepare me for the next.

As the Lord has led me thus far... I am excited for the future, I am grateful for the past year, and I am blessed to have walked this journey with you, Zion Lutheran Church, by my side.

+Blessings+

Timothy Benzinger

4153 Woodstock Dr.

Fort Wayne, In 46815: 260.446.8436



LADIES AID



Ladies are continuing to sew cancer bed pads regularly the first and third Thursday of each month at church and invite anyone who would like to be a part of this mission project to join us. We have great fellowship while sewing. The sewing is very easy, just securing the parts together with long stitches (much easier than sewing on a button)! We just received a large amount of sheets which Mary Metzger will cut for the pads. Sheets are always needed, but we cannot use flannel ones. Thank you to all who have donated.

We are still collecting stamps and they can be placed in box in narthex. Thank You.

“Thinking of You” cards are ready to be sent to Zion’s sick and shut ins.

SERVING WITH GLADNESS

Food for Thought: LIFE IS LIKE SWISS CHEESE!! You can concentrate on the cheese or focus on the holes; it’s your choice. God knows many of the holes in your life have not been caused through any fault of your own. He also knows there are many solid blessings in your life too. So, concentrate on the solid parts. Don’t waste time on what isn’t there.” So, now – anytime you see Swiss cheese, be reminded of the above!



A Time to Glow



In the Word

“You are the light of the world. ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” ([Matthew 5:14a, 16b](#)).

Of the Word

Almost every birthday celebration includes a cake with candles. Some believe this custom comes from the Greeks who made round cakes to resemble the moon. Candles were added so the cake would appear to glow.

Birthdays are an opportunity to glow for God. They remind us that God has given us more time to know Him better. With each passing year God gives us the energy and strength and the opportunities to share His light with others!

The devil, trying to rob us of God's glow, daily tries to get us to blow out our candles — to just get on with the party, eat our cake, and enjoy life. But Jesus, the source of light, ignites us to shine brightly as we love and care for others as He loves and cares for us.

As the years see more candles lit, may you glow brighter! Let your light shine out to others, giving the glory to God.

Walking with my Lord

Lord, help me to glow for You as I grow in You. Give me the courage to let Your light shine through me! In Your name I pray. Amen.

Mustard Seed: Everyday Celebrations. Authors: Elaine Bickel and Jan Struck. 3/28 ©2015 Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 801 Seminary Place Ste. L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Code: #40195

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations were taken from ESV Bible® (The Holy Bible English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



The First day of school is August 19. Pray for the students, teachers and the school administration daily.





Please remember in your daily prayers:

Sandra Barrett, Lois Duffy, Linda Hobkirk, Maxine Lott, Bill Niedermeyer, Willie & Karen Scheumann, Jeanine Slavicek, Jack & Joanne Lane, Ralph & Barbara Keiper, Lynn Kyler, Ralph Brooke, Ralph Sexton, and Steve Smith.

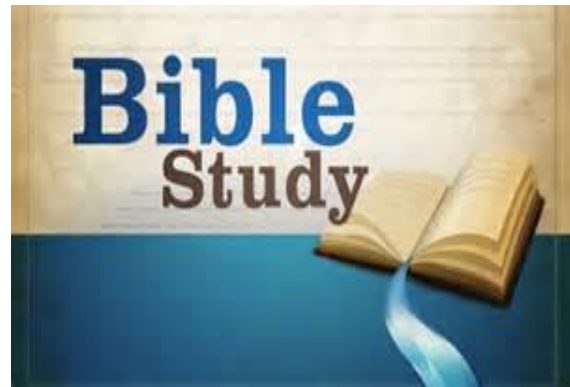


Logan Bachelder
Mathieu Hartman
Judith Kovacs
Cari Knuth
Emerson Knuth
Jerry Lahrman
Nolan Lahrman
Timothy Sexton
Christine Woodhouse
Nikki Harris
Micaiah Marin

2 Connie Forrester
Jeanine Slavicek
5 Michael Sexton
6 Ralph Sexton
10 Justin Yann
11 Austin Rittner
13 Jerry Lahrman
18 Jason Doehrman
Kenny Knuth
Micaiah Marin
23 Jennifer Harter
Sharry Wiehe
Myra Hartman
28 Rachel Degitz
30 Melanie Pressler
31 Janice Klopfenstein
Andrew Hart



13 Phil & Jill Coons
18 Gene & Janice Klopfenstein
20 Shawn & Sara Schuller
21 Matt & Rachel Degitz
26 Rev. Phil & Dcs. Katie Rittner
29 Robert & Judith Kovacs



***Thursday Night Bible Study will return
September 2 @ 7 pm.***

August 2021

September '21

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 11:30 am Board of Outreach	2	3	4	5 9:00 am Ladies Aid Sewing Group	6 6:00 pm Frankart-Johnson Wedding rehearsal	7 9:30 am Altar Guild 3:00 pm Frankart-Johnson Wedding 3:45 pm Reception in Gym
8 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service 11:30 am Board of Education 11:30 am Elders meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	16	17 7:00 pm Board of Directors	18	19 9:00 am Ladies Aid Sewing Group WCCS 1st day of school	20	21
22 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service Sem. T. Marin preaching 11:30 am Board of Youth	23	24	25 Zealant Items Due	26 Pastor out of town	27 Pastor out of town Altman-Rittner Wedding (in Michigan)	28
29 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service Matins Sem. S. Woodhouse preaching	30	31	1	2 9:00 am Ladies Aid Sewing Group 7:00 pm Thursday Evening Bible Study	3	4
5 Labor Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	6 OFFICE CLOSED	Notes				